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Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Docket No. MARAD-2003-16248 -182
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
MARAD

2003 11 20 P 10 32

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express strong support for Maersk Line, Limited's (MLL) request to transfer the fifteen Maritime Security Program (MSP) operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL application.

As a crewmember serving on one of the vessels involved, it is vitally important that this matter come to a close. The crews on board these vessels want certainty about who will be the vessel operator. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

MLL is a respected commercial operator that provides vital assets and systems needed to meet defense sealift requirements, including employment opportunities for seafarers. Continued indecision in this matter is adversely impacting my future employment opportunities, military sealift and the MSP program.

After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to bring stability and reliability back to MSP.

Sincerely,

Name:

MARSHALL J. SANFORD

Address:

P.O. Box 2438

HARVEY, LA. 70059

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Docket No. MARAD-2003-16248
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Sincerely,

Name:

Ismael Ayala

Address:

4972 NW. 189th TERRACE

OPA ROCKA FLORIDA, 33055

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Docket No. MARAD-2003-16248
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Sincerely,

Name:

Antonio Colon C-1862

Address:

Portugal St. 421-D

URB. Vistamar P.R. 00983

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Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir:

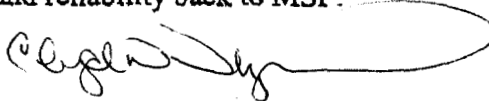
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Sincerely,



Name:

Clyde Titompsom

Address:

2859 Dryades St.

New Orleans LA 70175

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements
[MARAD-2003-16248]

Dear Sir:

Please add my name to those who strongly support Maersk's request to transfer the fifteen MSP operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL's request.

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Sincerely,



Name:

David W. Collins

Address:

8075 Malibu circle
Pensacola, FL 32514

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Sincerely, *Samuel S. Johnson*

Name:

Samuel S. Johnson

Address:

812 Chelston St. Mobile AL 36603.

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[MARAD-2003-16248]

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Name:

George G Shaw Jr

Address:

3025 N. 15th Ave

Milton Fl. 32523

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Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements
[MARAD-2003-16248]

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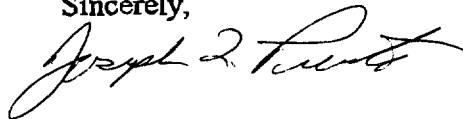
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Name:

JOSEPH T. PREVITO

Address:

112 AZALEA DR.
Biloxi MS. 39530

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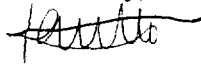
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Sincerely,



Name:

Silvino P. Masalta

Address:

2370 Edgewood Dr.

Missouri City, Texas 77459

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Name:

R. Keith Kirby

Address:

P.O. Box 494455
Port Charlotte, FL 33949-4455
R. Keith Kirby

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
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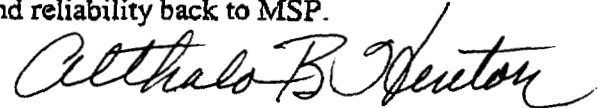
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Sincerely,



Name:



Address:

P.O. Box 38703
Houston, TX 77238-8703

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Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

James Perkins

442 42nd Street Brooklyn, New York 11232

October 6, 2003

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockers
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: **Maersk Line, Limited's Application for Approval of Proposed Transfer of Maritime Security Program Operating Agreements [MARAD-2003-16248]**

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express strong support for Maersk Line, Limited's (MLL) request to transfer the fifteen Maritime Security Program (MSP) operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL application.

As a Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA) Officer who can serve and/or do serve aboard the vessels, I believe it is vitally important that this matter come to a close. The crews on board these vessels want – in fact need – certainty about who will be the vessel operator. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag merchant marine and national defense sealift.

MLL is a respected commercial operator that provides vital assets and systems needed to meet defense sealift requirements, including employment opportunities for seafarers. Streamlining the management of the fifteen vessels, which represent nearly one-third of the MSP fleet, is critical to military sealift and to improved commercial operations by MLL. Approval of the application will eliminate duplicative management structures and more closely integrate the management of these vessels with that of Maersk's U.S.-flag fleet performing military missions.

The transfer application has been strongly supported by maritime labor and the U.S. Transportation Command. This matter has been pending with the agency since November 2002. In the intervening time, Congress has made significant progress on a reauthorized MSP. Importantly, both the House and the Senate bills, currently being debated in a House-Senate conference, contain provisions permitting *exactly the same arrangement* as sought by MLL in its application to MARAD. Continued indecision on this matter will adversely impact seafarers, military sealift, and the MSP program.

After nearly eleven months of debate, where all concerned have had an opportunity to review the issues, comment on the matter, and discuss with the Department and the agency, the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to bring stability and reliability back to MSP.

Sincerely,


(Signature)

Name: GERARD J. DUNDON

Address: 6334 WATERLOO DR

EASTON MD 21601

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements
[MARAD-2003-16248]

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Sincerely,

Name:

Wm A. Whelan

Address:

22410 Rustic Meadow
Katy TX 77494

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Name:

Roy L. Williams W-1140

Address:

922 DUNAWAY DR MOBILE AL 36605

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Sincerely,

Name:

Wilfredo Cruz

Address:

Care ZAFIRO C-20 Urb. ESTANCIAS de Yauco
Yauco, P.R. 00698

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Name:

Eberto Castro

Address:

949- EAKSFERRY
CHANNELVIEW TX 77530

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Name:

JUAN AYALA

Address:

CAVE 603 BLK. 224-21

CAROLINA PUERTO RICO 00985

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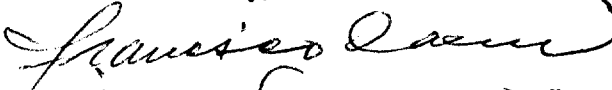
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After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to bring stability and reliability back to MSP.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:


FRANCISCO LACERTES

P.O. Box 944

PENUELAS, P.R. 00624

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements
[MARAD-2003-16248]

Dear Sir:

Please add my name to those who strongly support Maersk's request to transfer the fifteen MSP operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL's request.

As a member of the Seafarers' International Union (SIU) that provides unlicensed crew for the vessels involved, it is vitally important to me and my fellow Seafarers that this matter come to a close. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

MLL is a respected commercial operator that provides vital assets and systems needed to meet defense sealift requirements, including employment opportunities for seafarers. The SIU is proud to provide unlicensed crew to many Maersk ships performing defense missions, not just those in MSP. Allowing Maersk to directly operate these ships, instead of through a middle-man like USSM, is the best way to ensure our jobs and the future of the program.

After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD quickly to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to ensure our future and that of the program.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Daniel W. O'Brien
P.O. Box 144
Sand Point, AK 99661

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

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Sincerely, 

Name: Micah E. Miller

Address: 91-1139 Kaileonui St.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

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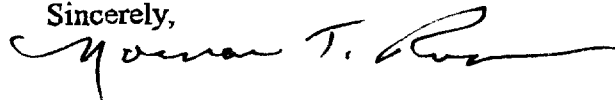
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Name:

Norman T. Rogers

Address:

720 Hawley Downs Dr.
Cocoa Beach, FL 32933

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely, 

Name:

RONNIE FORE

Address:

1554 Lemon St

MOBILE ALA 36605

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Will. B. Eff
1254 Sargent Cr Rd
Kodak, AL 35615

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Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

David A. Buckner
126 E FAIRVIEW AVENUE
HOMER, AK 99603